debt, deficit and borrowing. The Government has taken measures to curb expenditure growth by stringent control of non-productive Government expenditure, rationalisation of subsidies, improvement in the quality of Government expenditure and revenue enhancement through widening of the tax base and administration of a fair and equitable tax regime. For fiscal consolidation, the Government has laid stress on expenditure management, restricting fresh recruitment to one per cent of total civilian staff strength, revision in user charges for services provided by the Government and its agencies keeping in view the increased cost of these services, pension reforms, restructuring and privatisation of public sector enterprises and restructuring of interest rates on contractual savings. These measures are expected to have favourable impact on Centre's finances.

Counterfeit Currency Notes

†50. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that circulation of counterfeit currency notes in the country has still not stopped;

(b) if so whether Government are contemplating to take any effective steps to check this practice; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The Union Government has taken a number of steps to curb the circulation of fake currency notes which *inter-alia* include setting up a special unit in the Central Bureau of Investigation for exclusive investigation of counterfeit currency notes, scaling up vigilance by the Border Security Force/Custom Authorities to prevent smuggling of such currency notes into the country;

†Original notice of the questions was received in Hindi.

incorporation of special security features in higher denomination notes and dissemination of information on security features through print media and Doordarshan for benefit of public. Further, a High Level Technical Committee of experts with representative from Ministry of Home Affairs, National Security Council Sectt. (NSCS), Reserve Bank of India and the Printing Presses has been constituted for examining the whole gamut of problem caused by circulation of fake currency notes.

Financing of Film Industry

51. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial institutions and Banks have started financing film industry as per the guidelines of RBI and IDBI;

(b) if so, the details thereof, FI-wise and Bank-wise;

(c) whether some Banks have shown reluctance in financing film sector; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) Consequent to RBI issuing the broad guidelines regarding bank finance for production of film, most of the public sector banks have formulated film financing schemes. the public sector banks have sanctioned Rs. 174.78 crores assistance for financing commercial films as on 30.9.2001. Among the Financial Institutions, IDBI has sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 61 crores as on 30.9.2001 for the film industry.